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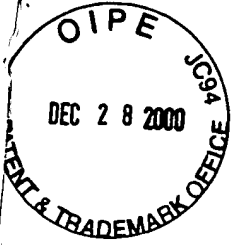
TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	09/655,743	
	Filing Date	09/06/00	
	First Named Inventor	Howe, Alice H.	
	Group Art Unit	3711	
	Examiner Name		
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	104	Attorney Docket Number	MPH-99-46

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement	
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<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	M. Paul Hendrickson, Attorney for Applicant
Signature	<i>M. Paul Hendrickson</i>
Date	December 20, 2000

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this date <u>12/21/00</u>	
Typed or printed name	<u>Roxanne Egert, Paralegal</u>
Signature	<i>Roxanne Egert</i>
Date	December 21, 2000

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3711#2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

TENNIS RACQUET EQUIPPED) Art Unit: 3711
WITH A TENNIS BALL RETRIEVER)
Alice H. Howe) Serial No.: 09/655,743
Filed: 09/06/00) Docket No.: MPH 99-46

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, 1.98, and it is requested that the information set forth in this statement and in the listed documents be considered during the pendency of the above-identified application, and any other application relying on the filing date of the above-identified application or cross-referencing it as a related application.

1. This IDS should be considered, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, as it is filed:

Check one of the boxes A-D

☐ A. within three months of the filing date of the above-identified national application or within three months of the entry into the national stage of the above-identified international application.

☒ B. before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits.

☐ C. after (A) and (B) above, but before final rejection or allowance, and Applicants have made the necessary certification (box "i" below or paid the necessary fee (box "ii" below).

Check one of the boxes "i" and "ii" below:

☐ i. Counsel certifies that, upon information and belief, each item of information listed herein was either (a) cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the



filing of this IDS or (b) was not cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and was not known to any individual designated in 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

☐ ii. Please charge the fee set forth in 1.17 (p), presently believed to be \$200, to Deposit Account _____.

☐ D. after (A), (B), and (C) above, but before payment of the issue fee. Applicant petitions under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(d) for consideration of this IDS. Please charge the fee set forth in 1.17 (i) (1), presently believed to be \$130, to Deposit Account _____. Counsel certifies that, upon information and belief, each item of information listed herein was either (i) cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS or (ii) was not cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and was not known to any individual designated in 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

2. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98, this IDS includes a list of all patent, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the office, either incorporated into this IDS or as an attachment hereto. Copies of the documents are attached, except as explained below.

(check boxes A and/or B and fill in blanks, if appropriate.)

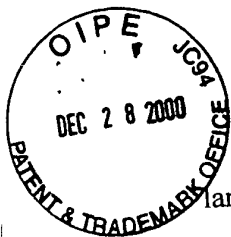
☐ A. Documents _____ are deemed substantially cumulative to documents _____, and, in accordance with 1.98(c), only copies of the latter documents are enclosed.

☐ B. Certain documents were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in the following prior application(s), which are relied upon under 35 U.S.C. 120:

Serial Number	Filing Date
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☐ C. No preliminary patentability search was conducted upon the invention described and claimed in this application.

Applicants identify these documents by attaching hereto copies of the form PTO-892s and PTO-1449s from the files of the prior applications or a fresh PTO-1449 listing these documents, and request that they be considered and made of record in accordance with 1.98(d). Per 37 C.F.R. 1.98(d), copies of these documents need not be filed in this application.



[] 3. Documents _____ are not in English language. In accordance with 1.98(c), Applicants state:

[] English translation of documents French 2541032 or of the pertinent portions thereof, or copies of corresponding English-language applications, are enclosed.

[] A concise explanation of the relevance of documents _____ is found in the attached search report from the _____ Patent Office (see reply to Comment 68 in the preamble to the final rules; 1135 OG 13 at 20).

[] A concise explanation of the relevance of documents _____ is set forth in an Attachment.

4. No explanation of relevance is necessary for documents in the English language (see reply to Comments 67 and 68 in the preamble to the final rules; 1135 OG 13 at 20).

5. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(g) and (h), the filing of this IDS should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in Section 1.56(b), or that any cited document listed or attached is (or constitutes) prior art. Unless otherwise indicated, the date of publication indicated for an item is taken from the face of the item and Applicant reserves the right to prove that the date of publication is in fact different.

Respectfully submitted,

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